# Results of Contaminated Sediment Cleanups:

# **Experience to Inform Future Remedy Decisions**

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## Overview of Scenic Hudson Reports

Cleanup Methods

Available dredges

Mitigation techniques

Sediment handling/disposal

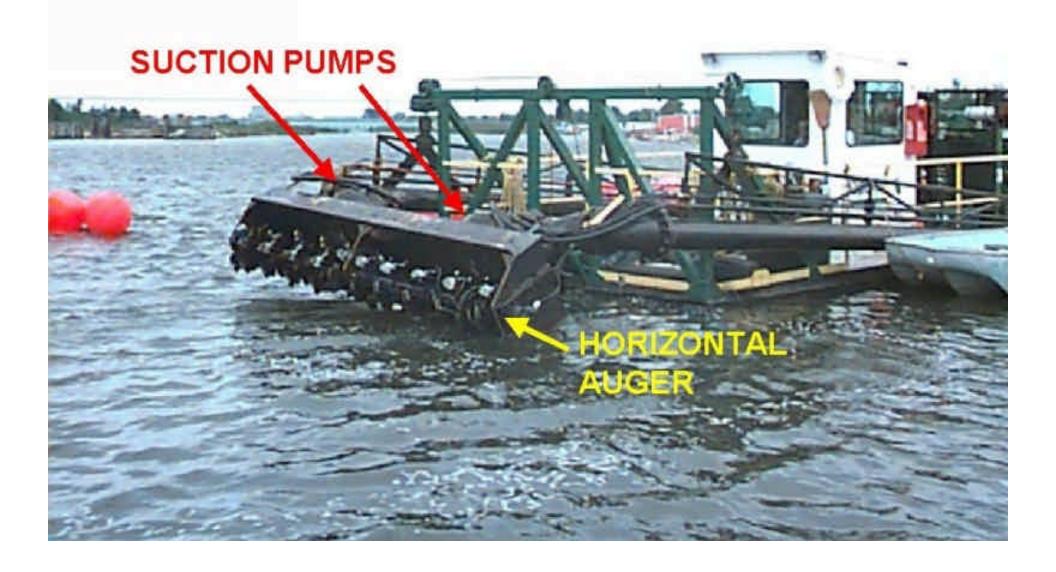
Alternatives to dredging

Cleanup Experience
Remedy selection trends
Sediment resuspension data
Sediment and fish contamination data
Case studies

Feasibility

Dredging decision factors

Applicability to the Hudson



## Review of Remedy Decisions

Identified 101 contaminated sediment projects at 88 sites in the U.S.

Analyzed 89 complete, ongoing, and planned cleanups

**Contaminants of concern** 

**General remedial approach** 

**Removal method** 

**Treatment/disposal** 

**Sediment volume** 

### **Review of Remedies - Removal**

Removal most common approach (88%)

>66 removals complete or underway

Five cleanups >100,000 yd<sup>3</sup> complete

Much larger cleanups are planned

Trend toward more and larger cleanups

### **Review of Remedies - Removal**

Removal methods
66% dredging
27% dry excavation
6% wet excavation

Most (51%) use conventional hydraulic dredges

**Innovative dredges uncommon** 

Operation modified for environmental dredging

## Review of Remedies - Treatment/disposal

**Treatment is uncommon** 

**Upland disposal preferred (81%)** 

50% off site

29% on site

3% both



## Contaminant Concentrations in Sediment Before and After Remediation, and Contaminant Mass Removal<sup>a,b</sup>

Site	Concentration Before Remediation (ppm)	Concentration After Remediation (ppm)	Percent Reduction	Mass Removal
Grasse River, NY <sup>c</sup>	518	75	86%	98%
Lake Jarnsjon, Sweden	30.7	2.4	92%	97%
River Raisin, MI	6,510	9.7	>99%	na
Ruck Pond, WI	474	84	82%	96%
Sheboygan River, WI	640	39	94%	95%
St. Lawrence River, NY	200	9.2	95%	na
Fox River Deposit N, WI	16 to 130 <sup>d</sup>	14	13% to 89%	78%

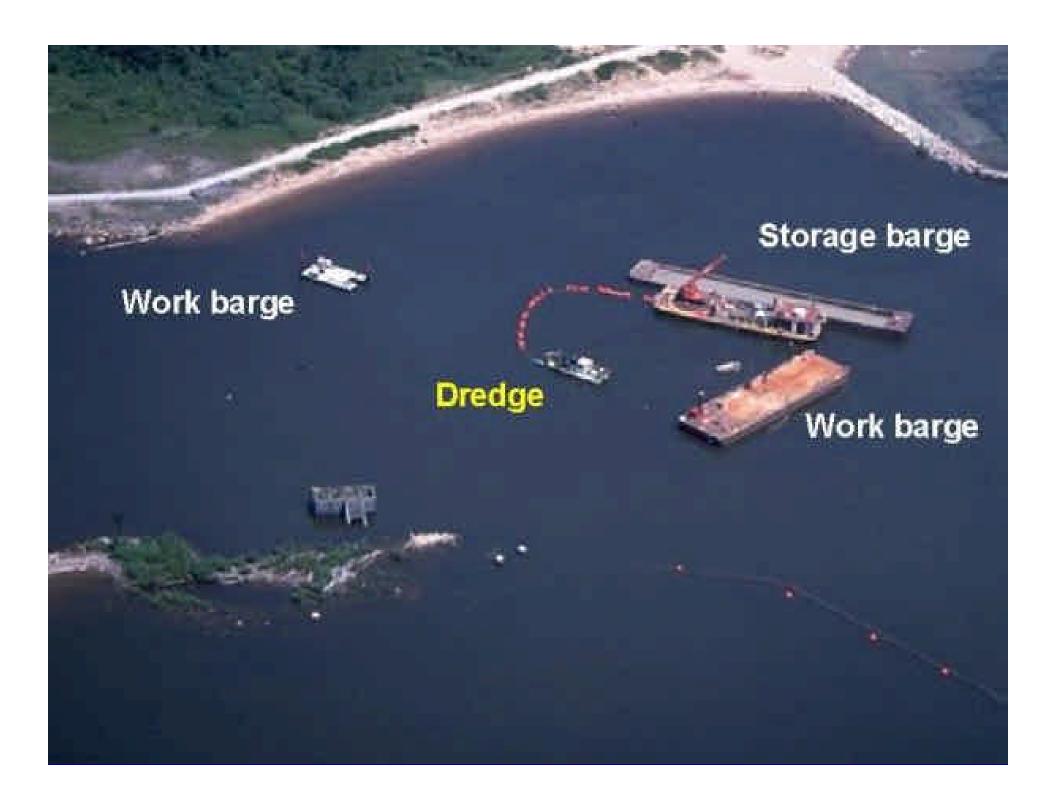
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> All concentrations are site averages except for Lake Jarnsjon, which are maximum concentrations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> PCBs are the contaminants of concern at all sites.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Concentration are from the site documentation report (BBL, 1995). Mass removal is from Thibideaux (1999) cited in NRC (2001). This source also reported average sediment concentrations were reduced by 53%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> Concentration range is based on the lowest and highest average values of six pre-dredging sampling studies between 1989 and 1998.



#### Contaminant Concentrations in Fish Before and After Remediation<sup>a,b</sup>

Site	Concentration Before Remediation (ppm)	Concentration After Remediation (ppm)	Percent Reduction
Black and Bergholtz Creeks, NY Grasse River, NY	3.5E-05 ~11	5.0E-06 ~4	86% ~64%
Lake Jarnsjon, Sweden	36	16	56%
Queensbury, NY (Yellow Perch) <sup>c</sup>	0.25 - 9.1	0.04	84% - 99%
Queensbury, NY (Small Mouth Bass) <sup>c</sup>	1.3 - 7.0	0.43	67% - 94%
Ruck Pond, WI	24	4.2	83%
Shiawassee River, MI	19	2.6	86%

a All concentrations are averages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> PCBs are the contaminants of concern at all sites except TCDD at Black and Bergholtz Creeks.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Pre-cleanup concentrations measured in 1992 and 1993 differed widely. Data for both years are presented.



### **Conclusions**

### **Cleanup Experience**

At least 66 removal cleanups complete in U.S.

**Dredging is the most frequent choice** 

Sediment and water handling/disposal well developed

**Numerous equipment choices** 

**Quality guidance available** 

## **Conclusions**

#### **Results Data**

- Cleanup monitoring should be expanded
- Sediment and fish contamination reduced after cleanups
- **Sediment benefits exceed background attenuation**
- Short-term (<4 year) fish impacts seen at a couple of sites
- **Benefits are long-term**